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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Employment Bulletin

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RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT - AUGUST 1992

Total Rhode Island nonagricultural wage and salary jobs rebounded somewhat in August as a result of workers returning to their jobs following the traditional July vacation closings. Although the August job total of 413,200 represented a monthly gain of 1,900, it was 7,100 below the previous year's level of 420,300.

Employment in the Goods Producing sector, at 98,600, registered an increase of 2,400 from July, but a decline of 7,300 compared to a year ago. Contract Construction jobs rose to 12,500 in August, a gain of 100 from the prior month, but a loss of 1,800 from the August 1991 total. Reflecting the return of workers from the July vacation period, Manufacturing employment advanced by 2,300 over the month; however, at 86,100, this sector showed a reduction of 5,500 jobs from the figure reported a year ago. The Durable and Nondurable Goods Producing industries posted monthly upturns of 2,000 and 300, respectively. Employment in Jewelry-Silverware registered the largest July-August gain (+1,000), followed by Fabricated Metals (+500), Nonelectrical Machinery (+500) and Textiles (+300). In addition, smaller monthly increases (+100) were recorded in Electrical Machinery, Miscellaneous Manufacturing, Apparel and Leather Products. These factory gains more than offset monthly job losses (-100) in Primary Metals, Instruments, Food-Beverage and Rubber Products. The remaining seven industrial categories - three in Durable Goods and four in Nondurable Goods - were unchanged from July.

The August workweek averaged 39.9 hours, down 0.7 of an hour from July, but up 0.1 of an hour from a year ago. Production workers averaged $9.90 in August representing a monthly gain of four cents and an annual increase of 28 cents.

The number of jobs in the Service Producing sector totalled 314,600 in August, showing a decrease of 500 from July; nevertheless, compared to a year ago, the August job level posted an increase of 200. Within this sector, the only monthly employment increase (+200) occurred in Miscellaneous Services. This gain was overshadowed by declines in overall Government (-400), Wholesale/Retail Trade (-200) and Finance, Insurance & Real Estate (-100). Employment in Transportation & Public Utilities showed no change in the July-August period.

Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by a tenth of a percentage point over the month - from an estimated 9.3 percent in July to the August level of 9.4 percent. The State's unadjusted unemployment rate dropped to 9.2 percent in August, down two-tenths of a percentage point from the July estimate of 9.4 percent. The number of unemployed Rhode Island residents fell from 49,700 in July to 49,100 in August. One year ago the unemployment rates for the State stood at 9.3 percent (adjusted) and 9.0 percent (unadjusted), while the jobless total was estimated at 46,800.

Nationally, the seasonally adjusted rate declined to 7.6 percent in August compared to the July figure of 7.7 percent. The U.S. unadjusted rate fell to 7.3 percent, down three-tenths of a percentage point from the previous month's level of 7.6 percent. One year ago the seasonally adjusted and unadjusted rates for the country were placed at 6.8 and 6.5 percent, respectively.

WORKSHARING IS WORKING !!

The WORKSHARING program gives employers an alternative to laying off workers when business temporarily slows down, thereby allowing them to retain skilled workers and skilled workers to keep their jobs. Since the program began in October 1991:

- Approximately 81 employers have participated;
- 7,988 initial claims have been filed; and
- 14,164 payments totalling $833,683 have been made.

WORKSHARING can be a viable option for companies; for more information, call Sandy Arruda at **727-4992**.

*Put **WORKSHARING** to work for you !*

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Employment and unemployment statistics contained in this report were compiled by THE DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING in cooperation with the BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR. For additional information contact LABOR MARKET INFORMATION at 277-3706. TDD Voice: 277-3718.

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	Aug. 1992	July* 1992	Aug.* 1991	
Civilian Labor Force	531.2	528.9	522.8	
Resident Employment	482.1	479.1	476.0	
Unemployment	49.1	49.7	46.8	
Rate (Unadjusted)	9.2	9.4	9.0	
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	9.4	9.3	9.3	*Revised

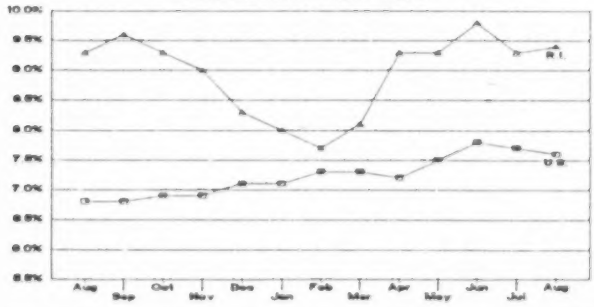
UNITED STATES

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991
Civilian Labor Force	128,473	129,600	126,097
Resident Employment	119,082	119,754	117,859
Unemployment	9,390	9,845	8,237
Rate (Unadjusted)	7.3	7.6	6.5
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	7.6	7.7	6.8

R.I. and U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Seasonally Adjusted, Aug. 91 – Aug. 92



TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands) Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991	NET CHANGE FROM July 1992	Aug. 1991
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	413.2	411.3	420.3	+ 1900	- 7100
GOODS PRODUCING	98.6	96.2	105.9	+ 2400	- 7300
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	12.5	12.4	14.3	+ 100	- 1800
MANUFACTURING	86.1	83.8	91.6	+ 2300	- 5500
SERVICE PRODUCING	314.6	315.1	314.4	- 500	+ 200
TRANS. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	14.8	14.8	14.8	-----	-----
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	87.8	88.0	90.2	- 200	- 2400
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	25.0	25.1	26.4	- 100	- 1400
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	129.4	129.2	126.4	+ 200	+ 3000
GOVERNMENT	57.6	58.0	56.6	- 400	+ 1000

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

AUGUST 1992

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)	PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES Weekly Earnings	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
ALL MANUFACTURING	86.1	395.01	39.9	9.90
DURABLE MFG.	57.2	386.10	39.6	9.75
LUMBER/FURNITURE	2.1	428.80	38.7	11.08
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.2	423.72	41.5	10.21
PRIMARY METALS	3.1	436.79	39.6	11.03
FABRICATED METALS	7.3	378.34	39.7	9.53
NONELECTRIC MACH.	5.5	508.67	43.7	11.64
ELECTRICAL MACH.	4.4	369.51	37.4	9.88
TRANS. EQUIPMENT	5.7	474.01	39.9	11.88
INSTRUMENTS	5.7	404.27	35.4	11.42
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	17.3	316.01	39.9	7.92
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	4.9	376.35	39.0	9.65
NONDURABLE MFG.	28.9	413.71	40.6	10.19
FOOD-BEVERAGE	2.8	379.39	41.6	9.12
TEXTILES	7.8	370.31	41.1	9.01
APPAREL	1.2	248.49	35.6	6.98
PAPER PRODUCTS	1.8	414.83	42.2	9.83
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	5.3	538.71	35.7	15.09
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	2.9	502.65	40.7	12.35
RUBBER PRODUCTS	0.6	483.44	40.9	11.82
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.0	473.63	44.1	10.74
LEATHER PRODUCTS	1.5	261.49	39.5	6.62

Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded from the Establishment Employment figures. Current month figures are PRELIMINARY. Prior month and year figures are REVISED.